

TENDRING
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

of

The Medical Officer of Health
for 1944.



Colchester :
The Essex Telegraph, Ltd.,
38, Head Street.
1945.

Tendring Rural District Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, 1944.

Chairman : Mr. J. R. CRIDGE, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : Mr. H. R. CARTER.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Mr. H. R. CARTER.

Vice-Chairman : Mr. W. E. L. WORN.

Mr. O. F. BAKER

Mr. L. G. NEWMAN

Mr. Q. R. CLARKE

Mr. H. J. POOLE

Mr. G. F. COBBOLD

Mr. H. L. ROSE

Mr. J. R. CRIDGE

Mr. G. S. SEAGER

Miss K. DANIELS

Mr. P. B. SMITH

Mr. T. W. FIELD

Mr. F. C. SPENCER

Mr. E. FURLONG

Mr. W. STRANG

Mr. L. T. HINNELL

Mr. S. A. WEELEY

Mr. G. E. McC. KEMBALL

Mrs. G. WRIGHT

Rev. W. A. P. MASON

BRIGHTLINGSEA AND TENDRING SHELL FISH COMMITTEE.

Tendring Representatives : Messrs. Q. R. Clarke, L. G. Newman
and P. B. Smith.

Health Office,
Weeley,
Clacton-on-Sea,
September, 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the Tendring Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1944.

This is the Sixth Report under war conditions, and in consequence it is again curtailed.

The outstanding features for the year are:—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

With the exception of Scarlet Fever and Measles, the incidence of infectious disease is again low.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Death Rate (Crude)	..	..	12·6	14·80	Figures for 1943	
Birth Rate	..	..	20·22	16·67	„	„
Infantile Mortality	..	..	28·94	35·20	„	„
Maternal Mortality	..	..	2·35	2·50	„	„

I take this opportunity to thank the Members of the Council for their assistance and consideration, and also the Staff for their help and co-operation.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. RAMSBOTTOM.

Section A.

Statistics and Social Conditions in the Area.

STATISTICS .

Area	66·931 Acres
R. G. Estimate of resident population, Mid-1944	20·520
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1943), according to Rate Books	7·178
Rateable Value	£105,322
Sum represented by a penny rate	£404

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Births—Legitimate	219	162	381
—Illegitimate	13	21	34
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	232	183	415
Birth Rate .. .. .	..	..	20·22

STILL BIRTHS.

Legitimate	5	4	9
Illegitimate	1	0	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6	4	10

Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths 23·5

DEATHS.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Total Deaths at all Ages	126	133	259
Death Rate (Crude) .. .. .	..	..	12·6

(The issue of the comparatibility factor has been suspended under present conditions).

DEATHS FROM DISEASES AND ACCIDENTS OF PREGNANCY AND CHILD BIRTH.

Cause.	Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 live and still births.
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Maternal Causes	1	2·35

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Actual Number of Deaths, Legitimate	6	4	10
Actual Number of Deaths, Illegitimate	2	0	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	8	4	12

TOTAL

Infantile death rate	28·92
Death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	26·25
Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	58·82

DEATHS FROM MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH AND DIARRHOEA (Under 1 Year).

Whooping Cough	—
Diarrhoea (under 1 year)	1
Measles	—

DEATHS FROM CANCER, TUBERCULOSIS AND INFLUENZA.

Disease.						Deaths.	Death Rate
Tuberculosis	}	Pulmonary		..	5	9	0.44
		Non-Pulmonary		..	4		
Cancer	..	..	..	..	..	31	1.51
Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	2	0.09

INFANTILE DEATHS.

The following table shows the cause of, and the ages at death of, the 12 infantile deaths registered :—

Cause of Death.			1	1	2	4	6	Total
			Under week	1 to 1 mth.	1 to 2 mths.	2 to 4 mths.	4 to 6 mths.	
Prematurity	..	..	5	—	—	—	—	5
Congenital Malformation	..	..	—	2	—	—	—	2
Congenital Diseases	..	..	—	1	—	—	—	1
Injury at Birth	..	..	—	2	—	—	—	2
Diarrhoea	..	..	—	—	—	—	1	1
Tuberculosis								
Meningitis	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total..	..	..	5	5	—	—	1	12

During the last six consecutive years 80 infants died in this district under one year of age. Twenty-nine of these died within the first week and 22 between the end of the first week and the fourth.

This means that 63.7 per cent. of the infant deaths occurred during the first month of life and 36.2 per cent. of the deaths were due to prematurity alone. Premature infants, if they are able to survive the first two months of life, usually develop normally.

It appears that any further appreciable reduction in the infantile mortality as far as this district is concerned will have to occur in the first month of life, and the reduction in the death rate of the premature infant offers possibilities.

It is a very difficult matter to give a premature infant anything approaching adequate attention in an ordinary household. The same to a certain extent applies to most Maternity Homes which are organised primarily for the birth of the child. Consequently the only hope of appreciably reducing the death rate amongst the premature children appears to be the provision of wards specially fitted and specialist nurses trained to attend these premature infants.

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1944.

Under 1 Year	..	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55
12		3	2	6	2	7	9	16
		55-65	65-75	75	& Over			
		28	54	120	Total 259			

There were 29 fewer deaths than last year (1943), the reduction occurring in the age groups between 45 and 75. Of the six deaths between 5 and 15 two were due to violent causes, namely road traffic accidents and enemy action.

Section B.

General Provision of Health Services.

Medical Officer of Health.—J. Ramsbottom, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., who is also Medical Officer of Health for Brightlingsea and Assistant County Medical Officer for the same area.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.—J. E. Hall, C.R.S.I., who also acts as Sanitary Inspector for the Urban District of Wivenhoe. Deceased.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.—R. E. E. Williams, C.R.S.I.

Clerk to M.O.H.—Mrs. M. H. Buchanan.

Clerk to S.I.—Mrs. K. M. Rattee.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological work is now carried out at the Pathological Laboratory, Essex County Hospital, Colchester, and also at the East Suffolk County Laboratory, Ipswich.

Ambulance Facilities.—No change to the previous years 1940-1943.

Nursing in the Home.—No change to the previous years 1940-1943.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.—No change to the previous years 1940-1943.

Midwives and Nursing Homes.—No change to the previous years 1940-1943.

Section C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Including the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

WATER.

The comprehensive scheme to provide a main supply to the Western Parishes is prepared, and ready for submission to the Ministry.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No new work has been undertaken during the year.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Zaldecide is used in the treatment of infested premises. The number treated during the year was eight.

Number of Infested Houses.		Number of Houses Disinfected.	
Council Houses.....	5	Council Houses	5
Land Settlement Houses	1	Land Settlement Houses	1
Other Houses	2	Other Houses	2

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1944.

1. Complaints received and dealt with—379.

2. Drainage and Sewerage:

Parish.	Drains altered or repaired.	Houses re- drained to sewer.	Houses redrained to cesspool
Beaumont ..	.. —	—	1
Great Bentley..	.. —	22	1
Great Bromley	.. —	—	1
Little Clacton	.. —	—	1
Mistley ..	.. 1	—	—
Little Oakley ..	.. —	—	1
Thorpe ..	.. —	—	1
Thorington ..	.. 1	—	—
Weeley ..	.. 2	—	—
House drains laid—4in.	.. ..	.. ..	1304 feet
New gullies .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	25
New cesspools .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	4
New water closets .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	34
New ventshafts .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	17
New inspection chambers .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	36

3. Public Cleansing and Salvage.

Weekly Collections :—

Manningtree, Mistle, Lawford, and Parkeston Areas	1,500 houses
Periodical Collections : Remainder of District..	5,700 houses

Salvage Summary—Year ending December, 1944.

	Tons.	Cwt.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Paper	120	0	0	721	14	9
Iron	36	10	0	53	0	6
Non-ferous Metal		5	2	10	9	6
Textiles	8	10	2	93	1	6
Rubber	4	1	3	4	7	3
Miscellaneous						
Bones	6	17	2	32	16	0
	176	5	1	915	9	6

4. Disinfections.

Schools. Number of Disinfections	16
Houses. Number of Disinfections	44

5. Housing.

Houses Inspected and Recorded	289
Houses not Reasonably Fit	24
Houses Rendered Fit by Informal Notice	1
Houses Rendered Fit by Formal Notice	2

Clearance Areas :—

Houses Demolished, 1944	2
Houses Remaining	90
Demolition Orders Made	8
Houses Demolished	3

REPAIRS, ETC., TO HOUSES.
CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

New Pails	1
New Closet Pans	2
New Water Closets	32

DAMPNESS.

Roofs Repaired	1
Dampness in Walls Remedied	3
Guttering Repaired	2

WATER SUPPLY.

Laid on from Main	2
Services Repaired	2
Wells Improved	12

MISCELLANEOUS.

Windows Repaired	1
New Cooking Range Provided	6
Stoves Repaired	1
Floors Repaired	4
Ceilings Repaired	1
Drains Unstopped	1
Drainage Nuisances Abated	7
Accumulations Removed	1
New Dustbins Provided	—
Overcrowding Abated	—

6. Food Inspection.

Food Voluntarily Surrendered :—

						lbs.
Beef	..	..	..	..	..	86
Veal	..	..	..	..	..	249
Pork ..	..	..	..	..	..	134 $\frac{3}{4}$
Ham	..	..	..	..	..	186
Bacon	..	..	..	..	..	425 $\frac{1}{2}$
Offal ..	..	..	..	..	..	44
Fish ..	..	..	..	..	..	2,016
Cheese	..	..	..	..	..	42 $\frac{3}{4}$
Butter	..	..	..	..	..	3
Lard ..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Sugar	..	..	..	..	..	126
Oranges	..	..	..	..	..	73
Prunes	..	..	..	..	..	25
Tinned Meat	..	..	..	..	..	125
„ Fish	..	..	..	..	..	126
„ Milk	..	..	..	..	..	144 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ Beans	..	..	..	..	..	73
„ Peas	..	..	..	..	..	7
„ Fruit	..	..	..	..	..	13
„ Rabbit	..	..	..	..	..	2
„ Soup	..	..	..	..	..	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Chocolate	..	..	..	..	..	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
						<hr/> 3,925 $\frac{1}{4}$ <hr/>

3,925 $\frac{1}{4}$ =1 ton, 15 cwt., 0 qrs., 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

Section D.

Housing.

During 1944, eight new dwellings were erected in the Parish of Great Oakley by the Tendring Rural District Council. These were for the housing of land workers.

They are the first houses built since 1941, in which year 11 were constructed.

Housing complaints have been dealt with as they have arisen. See the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Two Demolition Orders were made during the year, involving eight dwellings.

No actual demolitions have been carried out during 1944.

Section E.

Inspection of Food.

MILK PRODUCTION.

The Register shows there are 92 Producers, 49 Retail Producers and 14 Retailers in the District.

MEAT.

Meat for this area is slaughtered outside the District. For particulars of meat condemned, see the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SHELLFISH (Mulluxan).

During 1944, 943,082 oysters were passed through the purification tanks at Brightlingsea.

The numbers for the previous years were :—

1943	940,658	1940.. ..	2,021,293
1942	809,600	1939.. ..	3,407,062
1941	2,055,714	1938.. ..	4,361,107

Section F.

Prevalence of and Control Over Infectious Diseases.

During 1944, 181 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified. Infective Jaundice, which is notifiable in this area, together with Whooping Cough and Measles, accounted for 157 of the 181 cases.

Disease.	Total Cases.	Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	35	16	0
Diphtheria	5	5	0
Whooping Cough	58	0	0
Measles	4	0	0
Pneumonia	8	0	11
Erysipelas	3	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	0	0
Dysentery	1	0	—
Infective Jaundice	64	0	—

Total Number of Notifications—181.

SCARLET FEVER.

Thirty-five cases of Scarlet Fever were notified ; of these 16 were sent to Hospital, the remainder being nursed at home. The infection was of a mild character, and the cases were spread over the 10 parishes as shown below :—

Great Bromley	8	Tendring	3
St. Osyth	7	Elmstead	2
Ardleigh	4	Mistley	2
Little Clacton	3	Wix	2
Great Oakley	3	Weeley	1

DIPHTHERIA.

During the year, five cases of Diphtheria were notified, their ages being 35, 20, 15, 10 and 5 years. Three of the cases occurred at Elmstead Market. Of the remaining two, one was a visitor to the district, and according to the date of onset the disease was contracted before coming into the area. One of the five cases had received prophylactic inoculations four years previously ; the disease in her case was very mild, and she was admitted to Hospital for isolation rather than treatment. All of the cases were sent to Hospital.

DIPHTHERIA PROPYLAXIS.

During the year 1944, 150 children between one and five and 61 between five and fifteen were inoculated; this gives at the end of the year :—

663 inoculated out of a child population of 1,601 from 1 to 5 years. and 2,757 of a population of 3,226 between 5 and 15.

The percentage from the junior grades is 41·3 and the senior children 89·8.

This gives a percentage of 73·2 per cent. of the child population between 0—15.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Fifty-eight cases occurred. There were no deaths from this cause.

MEASLES may be said to have been non-existent during 1944.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During 1944 there were 34 new cases notified as compared with 39 in 1943, nine deaths were registered, five being pulmonary and four being non-pulmonary, as compared with eleven in 1943. At the end of 1944 there were 153 cases on the register, 75 being pulmonary and 78 being non-pulmonary. This figure shows an increase of 10 over 1943.

New Cases Notified During 1944.

Ages.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0— 1	..	—	—	—	—
1— 5	..	—	—	2	1
5—10	..	—	—	4	1
10—15	..	—	—	2	2
15—20	..	—	1	—	2
20—25	..	—	—	—	—
25—35	..	3	3	—	—
35—45	..	3	1	1	—
45—55	..	3	1	—	—
55—65	..	2	1	—	—
65—over	..	—	—	—	1
		11	7	9	7

Total Pulmonary Cases—18 Total Non-Pulmonary Cases—16
Total—34 Cases.

Deaths Registered During 1943.

Ages.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0— 1	.. —	—	1	—
1— 5	.. —	—	—	—
5—10	.. —	—	—	—
10—15	.. —	—	—	1
15—20	.. —	—	—	1
20—25	.. —	—	—	—
25—35	.. 1	1	—	1
35—45	.. —	—	—	—
45—55	.. —	1	—	—
55—65	.. 2	—	—	—
65—over	.. —	—	—	—
<hr/>				
	3	2	1	3
<hr/>				

Total Pulmonary Cases—5

Total Non-Pulmonary Cases—4

Total Deaths—9.

